



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 18, 1998

### **H.R. 3809** **Drug Free Borders Act of 1998**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Ways and Means on May 14, 1998*

#### **SUMMARY**

H.R. 3809 would authorize appropriations for 1999 and 2000 for the U.S. Customs Service, including funds for salaries and expenses, acquisitions, and the air interdiction program. In addition, the bill would make several changes to the current laws relating to overtime and premium pay for Customs officers.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3809 would result in additional discretionary spending of about \$4.2 billion over the 1999-2003 period. H.R. 3809 could affect direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. However, we estimate that any increases in direct spending would be less than \$500,000 per year. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA) and would have no impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

#### **ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 3809 is shown in the following table. For the purposes of this estimate, CBO assumes that the amounts authorized by the bill will be appropriated by the start of each fiscal year and that outlays generally will follow the historical spending rates for the authorized activities. We expect that some funds will be spent more slowly than the historical rates because the bill would provide substantial increases in authorizations relative to 1998 funding levels. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>						
Spending Under Current Law						
Budget Authority <sup>a</sup>	1,715	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	1,712	190	0	0	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Authorization Level	0	2,034	2,174	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	0	1,673	2,171	364	0	0
Spending Under H.R. 3809						
Authorization Level <sup>a</sup>	1,715	2,034	2,174	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	1,712	1,863	2,171	364	0	0

a. The 1998 level is the amount appropriated for that year for the Customs Service's salaries and expenses and air interdiction accounts.

The provisions of H.R. 3809 that modify overtime and premium pay for Customs officers could affect direct spending since such costs are paid out of a direct spending account (that is, from funds not subject to annual appropriation). Some of the bill's provisions could increase these personnel costs, while other provisions probably would yield small savings. CBO estimates that the net effect of H.R. 3809 on direct spending would be less than \$500,000 annually.

## **PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS**

Section 252 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 sets up pay-as-you-go procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or receipts. Enacting H.R. 3809 could affect direct spending, but CBO estimates that the net changes would be less than \$500,000 a year.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

H.R. 3809 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would have no impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

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